

BEVERLY EAVES PERDUE
GOVERNOR



**STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA
OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR**
20301 MAIL SERVICE CENTER • RALEIGH, NC 27699-0301

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Contact: Chris Mackey
Office: (919) 733-5612

Gov. Perdue Calls on Legislators to Take Bold Action

RALEIGH – Gov. Perdue addressed members of the North Carolina General Assembly today as they gathered for a legislative committee meeting in the state’s legislative office building, calling on them to take three major actions that will reform how the General Assembly does Business.

“Our fellow citizens – no matter how they voted in this election or what political affiliation they put beside their names – are looking to us in this room to position North Carolina for a successful and competitive future” she said. “The people of this state – all of us – want to guarantee that North Carolina’s best days are ahead of us, and that life will be better for our children and grandchildren than for ourselves.”

In what marks the first time in at least a dozen years, if ever, that a sitting North Carolina governor has addressed the General Assembly in this way, Perdue outlined the following three calls to action:

- Pass legislation to limit the length of time that the General Assembly can remain in session. Limiting long sessions to 90 days, and short sessions to 45 days would provide millions in cost savings for taxpayers - savings that could be used to save jobs for teachers and essential state services. This is similar to legislation filed in previous sessions by members from both sides of the aisle.
- Pass a Voter Empowerment Act to establish an independent redistricting commission that would ensure fairness as legislative maps are defined – another idea that many members of the legislature have supported for years.
- On her first day in office, Gov. Perdue signed an executive order to better define public records, increase transparency for her office, and give taxpayers more access to government information. The General Assembly should review any statutes which